List of Claims:

1-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently amended) A nonwoven fibrous mat having a basis weight in the range of about 2 to 2.75 pounds per 100 square feet comprising about 90 to about 65 wt. percent glass fibers, the fibers having a fiber diameter of 13 +/- ~~1.5~~ 3 microns and a length in the range of about 0.55 to about 1 ~~0.7 +/- 0.15~~ inch, the fibers in the mat being bound together by about 15 to about 25 weight percent of a binder that is at least partially cured and comprises before drying and curing a homopolymer or a copolymer of polyacrylic acid and a polyol, the mat passing the flammability test of NFPA, Method #701, the mat having a Taber stiffness of greater than about 50, the average molecular weight of the polyacrylic acid homopolymer or copolymer being about 3,000 or less and the permeability of the mat is in the range of about 500 to about 800 CFM/sq. ft..

63. (Previously presented) The mat according to claim 62, wherein the glass fiber length is about 0.75 inch and the Taber stiffness is greater than about 55.

64. (Previously presented) The mat according to claim 62, wherein the polyol is triethanolamine and the Taber Stiffness of the mat is at least 55 and the fiber length is about 0.75 inch.

65. (Original) The mat according to claim 63, wherein the polyol is triethanolamine.

66. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 65 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1 microns.

67. (Currently amended) The mat of claim 62 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1.5 micron.

68. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 63 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1.5 microns and the fiber length is about 0.75 inch.

69. (Original) The mat of claim 63 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1 micron.

70. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 64 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1 microns.

71. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 65 wherein the average fiber diameter is about 13 +/- 1 micron and the fiber length is about 0.75 inch.

72. (Currently amended) The mat of claim 62 wherein the mat also contains an effective amount of an organic phosphonate to increase flame resistance.

73. (Currently amended) The mat of claim 63 wherein the mat also contains an effective amount of an organic phosphonate to increase flame resistance.

74. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 62 wherein the basis weight of the mat is in the range of about 2.3 to about 2.6 lbs./100 sq. ft.

75. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 63 wherein the basis weight of the mat is in the range of about 2.3 to about 2.6 lbs./100 sq. ft.

76. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 64 wherein the basis weight of the mat is in the range of about 2.3 to about 2.6 lbs./100 sq. ft.

77. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 62 further including one or more of the group consisting of a pigment, a colorant, a filler, a fire-retardant, a biocide, an anti-fungal material, a water repellant and mixtures thereof.

78. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 63 further including one or more of the group consisting of a pigment, a colorant, a filler, a fire- retardant, a biocide, an anti-fungal material, a water repellant and mixtures thereof.

79. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 65 further including one or more of the group consisting of a pigment, a colorant, a filler, a fire- retardant, a biocide, an anti-fungal material, a water repellant and mixtures thereof.

80. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 68 further including one or more of the group consisting of a pigment, a colorant, a filler, a fire- retardant, a biocide, an anti-fungal material, a water repellant and mixtures thereof.

81. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 69 further including one or more of the group consisting of a pigment, a colorant, a filler, a fire- retardant, a biocide, an anti-fungal material, a water repellant and mixtures thereof.

82. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 65 wherein the basis weight of the mat is in the range of about 2.3 to about 2.6 lbs./100 sq. ft.

83-84. (Cancelled)

85. (Original) The mat of claim 62 wherein at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

86. (Original) The mat of claim 63 wherein at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

87. (Original) The mat of claim 65 wherein at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

88. (Original) The mat of claim 68 wherein at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

89. (Original) The mat of claim 69 wherein at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

90 – 91 (Cancelled)

92. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 96 wherein the binder content is about 16.5 wt. percent of the mat.

93. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 62 wherein the glass is E glass.

94. (Previously presented) The mat of claim 63 wherein the glass is E glass.

95. (Currently amended) The mat of claim 64 wherein the glass is E glass and at least a portion of a surface of the mat contains a hydrophilic material thereon.

96. (Previously presented) A nonwoven fibrous mat having a basis weight in the range of about 2.3 to 2.6 pounds per 100 square feet comprising about 90 to about 65 wt. percent E glass fibers, the fibers having a fiber diameter of 13 +/- 1.5 microns and a length in the range of about 0.7 +/- 0.15 inch, the fibers in the mat being bound together by about 15 +/- 3 weight percent of a binder, based on the weight of the mat, that is at least partially cured and comprises before drying and curing a homopolymer or a copolymer of polyacrylic acid and a polyol, the mat passing the flammability test of NFPA, Method #701, the mat having a Taber stiffness of greater than about 50, the average molecular weight of the polyacrylic acid homopolymer or copolymer being about 3,000 or less and the permeability of the mat is in the range of about 500 to about 700 CFM/sq. ft.